

SCHOOLS REPORT 2010

By the end of the summer term the Water Meadows had hosted 12 local schools each for a half day visit. These schools are:

Chafyn Grove • Leaden Hall • Harnham Junior • St. Andrews Junior • Downton Junior • Cathedral School • St. Osmonds R.C. Junior • St. Nicholas's Junior • Leehurst Swan • Bemerton St. John Junior • Winterbourne Earls C of E Junior School • Bishop Wordsworth Boys' Grammar

Total Number of pupils 497

8 schools' names are now on the Gate and more are to be done very soon.

It the Trust wishes to be sustainable or possibly even expanded during next year, we must have more volunteers. During a week in March, Harnham Juniors came every morning during one week to experience 'drowning'; involving 119 pupils. We have to have 3 adults dealing with this type of visit!

We appeal to all Friends to try and find us enthusiastic people - we are happy to train them. For example if they are not familiar with PowerPoint, we use it for presentations before the walk. Do you know a recently retired teacher, for example????

Also, we are always on the look-out for experts in plants, trees and birds. Not necessarily teachers!

We always have a question and answer session during the walks, and say "if we don't know the answer we will get back to you". The latest one was "how long does a swan sit on the nest?"

Our wish would be to have a flock of rare breed sheep on the meadows to show the children. Perhaps the Trust would consider this?